

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 JUSE-00 MMO-01 DEAE-00 SS-15
SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 PA-01 /045 R

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EA/TIMBS:DFIELD
DEA:GKENNISTON
DEA:PBENSINGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACDE, SNAR, TW

SUBJECT: MODE - CLOSURE OF TAIPEI DEA OFFICE

REF: STATE 150393

1. DEPARTMENT, JUSTICE AND DEA HAVE AGREED THAT THE
DEA OFFICE IN TAIPEI WILL BE CLOSED AS OF NOVEMBER 30,
1978 AND THAT IN THE INTERIM SINCLAIR MAY REMAIN IN
TAIPEI ON A TDY BASIS. SINCLAIR WILL USE THE INTERVENING
PERIOD TO ESTABLISH A BASIS UPON WHICH FUTURE LIAISON
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WITH ROC POLICE AGENCIES CAN BE HANDLED OUT OF DEA'S
REGIONAL OFFICE IN BANGKOK.

2. FYI: FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AND NOT FOR DISCUSSION
WITH THE ROC, WE HAVE ALSO AGREED TO TAKE ONE FINAL LOOK
AT THIS ISSUE IN LATE SEPTEMBER-EARLY OCTOBER. YOU SHOULD
ACT ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE DECISION TO CLOSE THE OFFICE

WILL NOT BE CHANGED. END FYI.

3. WHILE IN TAIPEI, SINCLAIR WILL EXPLAIN ROUTINELY TO HIS ROC COUNTERPARTS THAT THE NOVEMBER 30 CLOSURE OF THE TAIPEI DEA OFFICE IS PART OF A WORLDWIDE REALIGNMENT OF DEA OVERSEAS OPERATIONS WHICH WILL INVOLVE THE CLOSURE OF

CERTAIN DEA OFFICES AND A LIMITED REDUCTION IN DEA AGENTS ASSIGNED ABROAD. ANY PRESS INQUIRIES SHOULD BE ANSWERED IN SAME WAY. IN NEITHER CASE SHOULD YOU ACKNOWLEDGE LINK BETWEEN CLOSURE AND NORMALIZATION.

4. SINCLAIR WILL ALSO CONVEY TO COUNTERPARTS DEA'S INTENTION TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH ROC POLICE AGENCIES AFTER NOVEMBER 30 OUT OF ITS BANGKOK REGIONAL OFFICE AND EXPLAIN THAT HE WILL BE REMAINING IN TAIPEI UNTIL THEN IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE MOST EFFECTIVE LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS.

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